



NEWS RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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TWO CONNECTICUT ARMY NATIONAL GUARD UNITS MOBILIZED IN SUPPORT OF OPERATION IRAQI FREEDOM

HARTFORD, Conn., - Maj. Gen. Thaddeus J. Martin, Adjutant General and Commander of the Connecticut National Guard, announces that approximately 30 Soldiers from the 134th Military Police Company of Norwich, and 20 Soldiers from Detachment 3, 1109th AVCRAD of Groton, have been ordered to mobilize in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom. The unit will mobilize and deploy for up to 18 months.

A formal send-off ceremony will be held on Wednesday, July 12, 2006, 6:00 p.m. at the Aviation Classification Repair Activity Depot (AVCRAD) in Groton.

The 134th recently deployed to Louisiana in support of Hurricane Katrina. In 2003 the unit deployed to West Point, NY to provide force protection missions in support of Operation Noble Eagle. The soldiers were part of more than 400 Connecticut soldiers who were called to active duty to provide homeland security in the Northeast region.

The 134th MP Company provides convoy security, law and order support and force protection.

The 1109th AVCRAD provides depot level aviation maintenance and logistics support to the 14 Northeast states and the District of Columbia.

(MORE)

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The 1109th AVCRAD mobilized in December 2002 in support of Operation Enduring Freedom/Operation Iraqi Freedom and departed for Ft. Drum, NY, in February 2003. In March 2003, AVCRAD arrived in Kuwait. The unit returned to Connecticut on February 28, 2004.

The AVCRAD has recently deployed to Egypt in support of "Operation Bright Star," a multinational exercise involving more than 74,000 troops from 44 countries that enhances regional stability and military-to-military cooperation among our key allies and our regional partners.

In September 2005, 15 Soldiers from the 1109th AVCRAD deployed to Mississippi and provided aviation maintenance support for disaster relief in the aftermath of Hurricane Katrina. The maintenance team refurbished the 1108th AVCRAD's hangar in Gulfport, Mississippi, and completed maintenance on aircraft, and provided flight line maintenance operations for aircraft that were actively supporting the movement of equipment, personnel, food, and water to the areas in need in Mississippi.

This event is open to the media.

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